

Minutes of the Altamont Town Council Meeting
September 12, 2019

Present:

Brent "Ole" Olsen
Glen Jessen
Sommer Arnold
Melba Markham, Town Clerk
Shawn Keel, Town Employee
Clyde Watkins (arrived at 7:24 p.m.)
Josh Phillips (arrived at 7:44 p.m.)

Public Present:

Carma Timothy, Greg Timothy
Shelly Sorensen, Brian Thacker,
Bronco Thacker, Shantelle Thacker

Glen Jessen called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Minutes Approved (7:02 p.m.)

A Motion was made by Sommer Arnold to approve the minutes of August 6, 2019. Motion seconded by Ole Olsen. Motion carried unanimously.

(7:03 p.m.) Carma Timothy: Carma stated that her family had a wooden bench at the cemetery that has been there for many years. Carma received a phone call from someone stating that Shawn destroyed the bench, and Carma asked who was going to replace the bench. Shawn denied any involvement with the bench being destroyed. Carma would not divulge information on the informant. Glen Jessen asked to have the informant contact him to discuss the issue privately. He further informed Mrs. Timothy that without Mayor Watkins being present and this item not being an agenda item, no decisions could be made at tonight's meeting. Carma stated that she would have appreciated someone coming and talking to her about the bench prior to it being hauled off or destroyed. Carma will attend the council meeting in October to discuss this issue further.

PUBLIC HEARING (7:12 p.m.)

Resolution 2019-02, Enterprise Zone

The council agreed to reschedule this public hearing to the October 10 town council meeting. Melba will ask Will to come to next month's meeting so that he can discuss the benefits of the Enterprise Zone to the Town and businesses in the Town. Shantelle Thacker stated that she and her husband had recently started a home business and asked for information on purchasing a business license. Melba provided them with an application and further stated that the Enterprise Zone may be able to provide them with some tax benefits.

Eagle Scout Project, Bronco Thacker (7:17 p.m.)

Bronco stated that he would like to do an Eagle Scout project at the cemetery. His project would be to complete the new fencing on the east side of the cemetery. The pipe is already in, but he would be putting up all of the wire and painting the fence. He asked the council what color they would like the fence to be painted, and the council agreed on black or a dark color. Bronco further asked if the council would like the fencing to be high enough off the ground to weed-eat under, and they agreed that it would be beneficial to leave some room for weed-eating. The project will be approximately 530 feet of

fencing. Bronco asked if the Town could help financially, and the council asked him to gather donations and then come back if he still needs some financial assistance. They suggested talking to Jones Paint and Glass or Lowe's for donations. Bronco stated that if he is able to get the paint donated, he may start painting prior to next month's council meeting.

Employee Maintenance Position (7:29 p.m.)

Shawn Keel has obtained other employment, so there will be a full-time position opening for the Town. The Town has already received 4 applications for the position. The council discussed the possibility of two positions but agreed that one full time position would be open, and the Town may hire seasonal help where needed. Mayor Watkins stated that there is enough money to compensate a full-time employee. The general fund covers time that the full-time employee puts in at the park and the cemetery. If the Town loses the park, the employee will be spending additional time on other projects and at that point the council may need to discuss raising rates on the sewer and/or secondary water to cover the employee's time. The general fund could not be used to pay for time spent on sewer or secondary water. Glen asked what other benefits were available for a full-time employee. Melba stated that she is waiting for a phone call from the retirement system before she knows everything that the Town can offer. She stated that anyone who works over 20 hours per week would be eligible for retirement benefits. Once Melba gets the information, the council may schedule a work meeting so that a decision could be made, and interviewing could begin.

Park (7:52 p.m.)

Sommer Arnold recently held a craft fair and earned \$600.00 for the Altamont Park.

Glen stated that he met with engineers for the sidewalk project and they fine-tuned some things. There are still problems with some driveway approaches, and they moved some sidewalks from one side of the street to the other to avoid potential problems. They hope to have the project out for bid this fall. Glen expects to have plans and blueprints to review at next month's council meeting.

Fire Department (7:56 p.m.)

Chief Phillips stated that he needs the Tax ID number for state surplus, as well as proof of Township. Melba stated that she could provide him with the Tax ID number, but she does not have a lot of information on proof of Township. She will provide him with what she has.

Chief Phillips further reported that they started the junior fire-fighting program with five students. They will be trained in wildland firefighting, and if a position opens up, they could apply.

The department is training four personnel for wildland firefighting, and then the department will be back to 100%, with a couple of the firefighters just being trained as drivers.

Chief Phillips reported that the car show went well, earning the department approximately \$1,000. He stated that the department discussed building a dunk tank to rent out for additional income and asked if the Town would approve that. From what he understands, no insurance would be necessary as the renters all sign disclaimers. Mayor

Watkins encouraged Melba or Shawn to contact the Town's insurance agent to make sure that the Town would not be held responsible if the fire department rents out a dunk tank.

Sewer Lines (8:05 p.m.)

Shawn stated that he has contacted Val Cotter about coming and running a camera down the sewer lines, but he has not returned the call. Tyler Webb does not have a camera large enough for the Town's lines. Mayor Watkins suggested that Shawn document what he has done in case the insurance company asks why the job has not been done. Ole stated that he would contact Myton City to find out how they get their lines videoed.

The next meeting will be held on October 10, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

A Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sommer Arnold at 8:10 p.m. Motion seconded by Ole Olsen. Motion carried unanimously.

Read and approved this 10th day of October, 2019.

e-mailed to

altamonttown@gmail.com

October 1, 2019